

House Bill 731

By: Representative Hatfield of the 177th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To provide that future elections for the office of chief magistrate of Charlton County shall
2 be nonpartisan elections; to provide for submission of this Act for preclearance under the
3 federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended; to provide for related matters; to repeal
4 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 All elections for the office of chief magistrate of Charlton County conducted after January 1,
8 2010, shall be nonpartisan elections as provided for in Code Section 21-2-139 of the
9 O.C.G.A. Such nonpartisan elections shall be held in conjunction with the November
10 general election immediately preceding expiration of the term of office and conducted as
11 provided in Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the O.C.G.A., the "Georgia Election Code."

12 **SECTION 2.**

13 Nothing in this Act shall affect the term of office of the chief magistrate of Charlton County
14 in office on January 1, 2010. The sitting chief magistrate shall serve out the term of office
15 for which he or she was elected and shall be eligible to succeed himself or herself as
16 provided in this Act.

17 **SECTION 3.**

18 The governing authority of Charlton County shall through its legal counsel cause this Act to
19 be submitted for preclearance under the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended, no
20 later than 45 days after the date on which this Act is approved by the Governor or otherwise
21 becomes law without such approval.

22 **SECTION 4.**

23 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.